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FM AMEMBASSY ASTANA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7531

INFO RUCNOSC/OSCE POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RHEFAAA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY 2070

UNCLAS ASTANA 000258

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/RPM, SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN PROPOSES DATES FOR OSCE INFORMAL
MINISTERIAL IN ALMATY

REF: OSCE DAILY DIGEST 02/22/10

¶1. (U) Sensitive but unclassified. Not for public Internet.

¶2. (SBU) At close of business on February 22, Deputy Foreign Minister Kairat Umarov called the Ambassador to propose two possible dates for the OSCE Informal Ministerial in Almaty (vice Astana, as reported ref): June 19-20 or July 10-11.

¶3. (SBU) Following on Foreign Minister Kanat Saudabayev's personal invitation on February 4 in Washington to Secretary Clinton to participate in the ministerial, Umarov emphasized that Kazakhstan wants to offer maximum flexibility to accommodate the Secretary's schedule and would willingly consider other dates that she might propose. While Kazakhstan will maintain maximum flexibility, Umarov commented that Saudabayev's summer summit, high-level meeting, and travel schedule is already becoming "congested." For that reason, Astana hopes for an early decision on the dates for the Informal Ministerial.

¶4. (U) Please advise.
HOAGLAND